

PAST COMPLETED ACTIONS WITH PRESENT IMPLICATIONS

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Romans 6:1-11

1. I believe Romans 6 is the focus chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans.
2. Chapters 1-5 lead up to it and the rest of the letter builds on the truths chapter six contains.
3. To date we have examined Paul's explanation of why all people are guilty before God, and what God has done in response to that guilt.

a. Rom 1:18-20

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

b. Rom 4:5-8

But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness, 6 just as David also speaks of the blessing on the man to whom God credits righteousness apart from works: 7 "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED. 8 "**BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT.**"

c. Rom 5:8-10

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.** 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, **we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.**

4. Having dealt with the issue of sins committed Paul now moves on to the issue our sin nature; that which is true about us because we are in Adam.
5. In the passage we are focusing on today Paul emphasized that we are to accept by faith that which we know to be true based on the Word of God.
6. In verse three he wrote, "do you not know," in verse 6 he states, "knowing this," and in verse nine he declares, "knowing that."
7. We must know and believe what is true related to God's "Great Salvation" if we are to experience the life that is ours in Christ Jesus.

I. In Christ we have died to sin. 1-4

- A. In verses 1-2 Paul confronted some of his critics who argued that the doctrine of justification by grace through faith gives us a license to sin.
- B. Paul's response is emphatic, "No way! How can someone who has died to sin still live in it."
- C. We often speak about being born again, but we fail to recognize that in being born again we die to who we were and what we were.

- D. When we were baptized we declared that a death had taken place along with a resurrection.
- E. Having died we are no longer in Adam, rather we are now in Christ, and our relationship to sin has changed.
- F. Through justification we are declared righteous, and through regeneration we become a new person in God's sight.
- G. What is true about Jesus is now true about us.
 - 1. Like Christ we were raised from the dead.
 - 2. Like Christ our relationship to sin has changed.
 - 3. In Christ we too can walk in newness of life.

II. In Christ we are no longer the slaves of sin. 5-7

- A. These verses state facts that are true regardless of our feelings or our experience.
 - B. Paul clearly teaches that every true follower of the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified with Christ; our old life was nailed to the Cross.
 - C. We were crucified with Christ so that:
 - 1. Our body of sin might be done away with or made powerless.
 - 2. We would no longer be slaves to sin.
 - 3. Having died to sin we are freed from sin.
- NOTE: We are no longer married to sin.

III. In Christ we live with Christ. 8-11

- A. What is true about Christ will be true about us.
 - 1. Having died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Christ, now and forever.
 - 2. Having been born again through Christ we will never die again; death is no longer master over us.
 - 3. Like Christ we have died to sin once and for all, and like Christ the life that we now live we live to God.
- B. "Even so," Paul writes, "based on these facts, these realities, consider, mark it down, believe yourself to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus."

APPLICATION

- 1. It is important to note that Paul did not say that sin is dead, but he did say that we were dead to sin.
- 2. As long as we are housed in these bodies of flesh we are going to have to confront the reality that sin is not dead, but we are no longer the subjects or slaves of sin.
- 3. If you have truly been born again you can confidently say with Paul, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me." Galatians 2:20